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The Weather To-day.

For the District of Columbia, showers to-night, unsettled weather, and probably showers Sunday; variable winds. For Virginia, showers; warmer in the interior; variable winds.

"THE POST" AND THE POOR.

Our morning contemporary editorially expresses its sympathy for our "working poor," and hopes that capitalists will build small flats for the use of such as are forced out of the alleys under the police regulations and charge low rents for their use.

The intelligence exhibited in this proposal is not unusual. Capitalists are generally the first, instead of the last, to discover profitable investments, but it is not their practice to let their property for any less rent than they can get.

We wish to suggest to the Post a better task than that of undertaking to make poverty merely endurable, inasmuch as that can be safely left to those who are not influenced by charitable or any other than personal business motives. It is the abolition of involuntary poverty.

It is suggested that it is only necessary to remove the barriers that fence labor from capital out of the opportunities to produce wealth, and then to permit them each to retain all that they produce.

It has been argued that to do this it is only necessary to repeal certain laws and to amend certain other laws, as follows:

The present assessment law, which has thrown the great burden of taxation on the small home owner and given comparative exemption from taxation to the wealthy property owner and land speculator;

The law taxing improvements to land, which tends to increase the tenant's rent, and, by relieving land from the burden of taxation, to foster the land monopoly;

The law taxing personal property, which places an unjust burden on widows and orphans whose property is under supervision of the probate court, and on merchants' stocks of goods, which increases the prices of those goods to the consumer;

The law which imposes only an insignificant tax on land, thus fostering land speculation and land monopoly, and making it impossible for the average workingman to own a home.

It does seem that by raising wages and cheapening commodities and land and houses the so-called "labor problem" could be settled, and there would be no occupation for those very good people whose goodness is limited to almsgiving.

Saxton Hill wants lead ore on the free list, but some protectionist will please explain how what is supposed to help the mine owner injures the smelter man. The largest smelter in the United States, at Argentine, Kan., brings its raw material from "pauper" Mexico, and American workmen reduce it at living wages.

Jimenez from the recent disturbances in Cripple Creek was appropriately named.

In the municipal election at Norfolk, Va., the prohibitionist reform ticket beat the straight Democratic layout by a majority of 1,000, and in Virginia "the world do move."

THE PROBLEM FOR THE PEOPLE.

The history of the world is the record of man's efforts to free himself from the chains and burdens placed upon him by his fellow-men. Through all the past the conflict has been between man and mammon—between the people and power—between the scattered and segregated individuals who constitute the great majority of mankind, and who are unable to act readily in concert, on the one hand, and the segregated, organized, and consolidated forces of society upon the other—organized forces acting with that ceaseless vigilance, wonderful celerity, and prodigious power which can only be attained by concentrating in the hands of the few the united energies of the many.

In order to secure the supposed blessings of government the masses of mankind have ever been willing to lay at the feet of chosen leaders their united power, their rights, their liberties, and their lives, and the result has always been the same. The people have been betrayed, power has been prostituted, rights disregarded and set aside, freedom trampled upon, which proves all too plainly that power wielded by man over man is ever fraught with greatest danger to the liberties of the people.

All history attests that man, clothed with power, will use it to his own advantage, just so long as men will suffer him to do so, and that look of all selfishness, grips, screws, and passions will self, self, self. The great tide of human activity ebbs and flows in response to the promptings of human nature, and is not wholly answerable to successful regulation through official or governmental control. Hamilton said that "men act in all things either from interest or fear." Jefferson declares that "benevolence let nothing be said of confidence in man, but blind him down by the chains of the Constitution."

The great evil of the age is the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few and the consequent impoverishment of the masses, and to reform these abuses a somewhat numerous school of politicians is teaching a doctrine that does violence to a proper conception of a free and republican form of government. If the men who masquerade in the cast-off garments of old-world socialism would devote half as much time to the study of free and simple government as they do to the consideration of the wild and chimerical theories of society, with a view of having the government give employment to the citizen, superintend his labor, and look after the general conduct of his life, they would be able in a few years to accomplish such results as would amaze themselves. If they would with sober, wise, honest, and sympathetic words seek to point out to our suffering people the constitutional way to reach those results which our tradition and history foreshadow and our genius and aspirations cause us to yearn for, instead of mocking at our miseries and fears by proposing to plant upon this continent a poisonous exotic, state socialism, they would render the difference between the people and the vindictive of a posterity.

American problems must and will be solved by American rules and methods. The American people will never, after full and fair discussion, undertake to remedy the evils that

afflict them by a system that has for its central idea the marshalling of themselves into vast bands to be commanded by superiors. They will give their services for hire, but will reserve the right to quit and parley with their employer. The only ranks in which they will obey are the ranks of war. When the flag is furled, the drum-beat hushed, and the rifle laid aside for peaceful pursuits, the American citizen lives again that life of individuality which has been the habit of his Anglo-Saxon ancestors for ages past.

Let no man mislead the signs of the times. Let him ponder well the words of Plutarch, in which he said: "Affliction and public calamity naturally embitter and sour the minds and tempers of men, disposing them to such peevishness and irritability that hardly any word or sentiment of common vigor can be addressed to them on public matters without giving offence. His that remonstrates with them on their errors is presumed to be insulting over their misfortunes. So far as it is in the body politic in times of humiliation and distress—times when the necessity of affairs most requires plain dealing."

The problem of this age is not so much how to produce wealth, but how to distribute it. How to apportion fairly the bounties of nature and the proceeds of human exertion, and at the same time avoid the despotism of too much government. Not by more government, but by less government can we lessen the opportunities for evil of those who oppress and afflict their fellow-men. Not by enlarging, but by contracting the area of organized activity shall we secure better conditions for the masses. Not by abolishing competition, but by restoring competition through the destruction of trusts, syndicates, and combinations that now stifle competition, shall we find industrial emancipation and popular liberation.

The men who suppose that this nation is prepared to acknowledge that self-government is a failure, or that it is ready to revolutionize its institutions, misinterpret the meaning of popular discontent. Having survived the shock of fratricidal arms and emerged whole out of the red vortex of civil war, the nation entered upon a long and dangerous detour. But it has drunk to its bitter dregs the cup of dissipation and become sobered by adversity, and it is now ready to enter upon an era of governmental reform and not revolution.

A bill to increase the pay of letter-carriers has been reported by the House committee. If any other class of public servants renders as much service for wages received, it will please stand up and be counted.

The senatorial investigating committee have decided that Senators Hunter and Kyle were victims of Buttz of ridicule.

Mrs. Mary E. Lease is very ill at Olathe, Kan. Her condition is reported as critical in the extreme. To make matters worse, the doctors disagree in the method of treatment, and it is feared that the patient may die.

MR. GORDON'S QUESTION.

Mr. Gordon asked whether Mr. Teller did think that the removal of the tax on state banks would in a large measure solve the monetary question.

Mr. Teller replied that the relief offered by such an expedient would only be temporary and would be confined to this country. It might stimulate business here for a time, with a corresponding depression following, but nothing could cure the present monetary ills from which the world was suffering that was not world-wide.

Try the country with a little temporary relief, Mr. Teller. You can take your time to cure the monetary ills of the rest of the world.

The Dockery committee is still after the clerks. Doubtless it is an eminently good thing for the government to practice rigid economy, and cut off all useless functionaries in the public service wherever found; but it will occur to the casual observer that a more propitious time than the present might have been selected for starting the pruning operation.

The Senate sugar trust investigating committee is trying to find out who got the sugar.

Well, here is richness: A notorious green goods man, widely known as "Big Walter," has been robbed of \$9,000 in good money by a man named Koonowski, who claimed that the big fellow defrauded him of half that amount four years ago.

DELUSIVE STATISTICS.

Figures don't lie, but they can be made to cover a great deal of perversion. Statistics are useful in comparative statements, but they should be sparingly used, and not taken at length often weakens and sometimes destroys the force of an argument. They are tiresome to read, and always bore the listener, as it requires a great strain of the mind to follow them intelligently.

Besides, statistics may be made to prove almost anything, accordingly as they are applied. This has been illustrated in the debates of the present Congress, both in the extra and regular session. Long tables have been wearily quoted to show that the prices of our national products have declined since the demonization of silver in 1873. Now, in what ever degree that measure may have contributed with other causes to bring about the present financial depression, it is notorious that the decline from war prices commenced shortly after the close of the war, and continued steadily for years before and after 1873, so that the statistics hereafter disappear in the air. The statistics that have been used to the filibuster and obstructionist to fill up speeches made against time.

There is an anecdote in point in an old volume of Chambers' Miscellany. The English Parliament sent on a commission to investigate Goodwin Sands, the deposit of which had destroyed one of the finest harbors on the coast. With some trouble and expense they secured the testimony of the oldest inhabitant, a nonagenarian of reputed wisdom and statistical information. He was asked if he knew the origin or cause of the Goodwin Sands.

"Of course I do," he replied; "Trinity church steeple."

The commission was puzzled and astounded, but all their cross-questioning only elicited the fact that when there was no steeple to Trinity church there had been no Goodwin Sands. The statistical statement was indisputable, but the report was not very satisfactory to Parliament.

For the remainder of this session of Congress we trust members will be sparing in their statistics. We like to read their speeches in the Congressional Record, but it makes us tired to wade through pages of figures with which we have already been made familiar through departmental and census reports.

It is now understood that the Senate will come to a vote June 15. Meantime Messrs. McKim and Wilson are in joint session to determine the difference between the bills. At present writing it appears that twofoldness will be passed by a small majority.

Mr. Spruiker has discovered paternalism in the Constitution. This will be sad news to some of the statesmen on the hill.

Start up in our sanctum the other morning we were startled by an impatient knocking. Upon opening the door we were confronted by the angry ice boy, with a lump of con-

gealed element burning his hands. He inquired respectfully: "Are ye afraid somebody will steal yer?"

Well, no; we hardly apprehend such a catastrophe in broad daylight with our efficient police within call. Anyway, we are under no moral obligation to explain our conduct to an ice boy—we wish we could call him a nice boy. We might be neglecting ourself for cogitation. We might wish to escape from the overbearing bore of the editorial room. We might be hiding from an important duty, or the fellow with a big stick, seeking revenge for yesterday's lampoon. Captain Jenkins—

"When we went out to take a walk, Was so handsome and so gay, He had to take the dogs along To keep the girls away."

For a similar reason we may have been compelled to look out for him. Are you satisfied, sonny?

BOORIBOOLAGA.

Dickens portrays the character of an amiable lady who was so engrossed with her foreign mission work, of making shirts for the tropical savages of Booriboolaga that she had no time to wash the faces or patch the wardrobes of her own dirty and ragged children. Senator Frye, on Friday last, turned this fiction into history by thus pathetically appealing in behalf of the Hawaiians:

"For three months the Senate has dilled in a manner that was utterly inexcusable. The people of Hawaii were on a pivot. The action of the Senate might send them forward or backward. Why this miserable quibbling should go on, was beyond his comprehension. There could be no reason why the people living on those islands should not be given liberty of thought and action."

That the American people have been suffering for more than twice three months from the miserable quibbling of the Senate over the tariff bill does not excite the tender-hearted Senator's sympathies. We have not heard of a better subject for a cartoon since the late Judge Black's reply to Ingersoll on the mistakes of Moses. "Picture Mr. Ingersoll," exclaimed the judge, "with the blood and fat of lambs slaughtered yesterday trickling from the corners of his sensual mouth, shedding tears over lambs sacrificed 2,000 years ago!"

EMMA PECK wants a divorce from James A. Peck for cruel treatment. The husband is evidently no relative of Hon. Peck.

CAN it be possible that yesterday's suicide discovered that he had been trespassing on the grass and killed himself in despair?

A NEWSPAPER thief was arrested yesterday morning. It was discovered that, like the majority of the community, he takes THE TIMES.

SENATOR GORMAN's report the other day was too much for him, and he is now confined to his bed at his home in Laurel. Mr. Gorman's illness is said to be the result of overwork.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND is again in the harness after his outing, and Mrs. Cleveland and the children have returned from Buffalo, and still there is no let up in the Senate on long-winded tariff speeches.

The Columbia Railway Company has decided to adopt the cable system, and Metropolitan company intends to try the same power on Ninth street. The Washington and Georgetown road will branch off at Fourteenth and the Avenue in a straight shoot for Mt. Pleasant, and generally rapid transit in the District is gaining ground. A consummation devoutly to be wished.

The New York Sun of yesterday contained a long editorial, grouping together disconnected extracts from Grover Cleveland's utterances, to show that his teachings are socialistic. The following heads the group:

The discontent of the employed is due, in a degree, to the grasping and heedless exactions of employers. If that be Socialism, make the most of it. The fact is, the Sun views everything through the distorted medium of its violent prejudices; consequently its facts are exaggerated and its arguments unfair. If Uncle Dana were behind a fence, and you could only see the tips of his ears and hear his bray, what might you not mistake him for?

It is officially announced that the census of 1890 will be completed by July 1, 1894. In this connection it may be stated that many Times reporter have lain in wait three and half years old will be fired.

HITS—OR MISSES.

The Welsh Church is in a very unsettled condition, with all kind of ill things likely to happen. Perhaps it is the rabbits.

Hill will have to work overtime to practice what the Sun preaches. The Pyramids were begun about 4,000 years ago. From the absence of hieroglyphic writings on the subject it is thought that Mr. Quay had not at the time begun his tariff speech.

It is true that John Wanamaker has purchased the Chicago Inter-Ocean we may expect elegant next-to-reading-matter display ads for the Harrison boom in the Wanamaker style.

Governor Flower has decided to veto no more bills this session. He has disposed of the last left him by the New York legislature.

The sugar scandal would undoubtedly be interesting if there were the remotest possibility of getting at the truth.

The "Lambs" gambled Friday night. There is a rumor that another Olney resignation rumor will soon be sprung.

The Orange (N. J.) board of health says kissing won't do. Hereafter there will be no more kissing in Orange.

A column-and-a-half editorial in yesterday's Sun demonstrates to the lucid vision of C. A. Dana that Grover Cleveland is wicked in several heinous ways.

Apropos of Breckinridge: Endeavor to wear one face only, and see to it that it was C. T. U. and kindred organizations would present every moderately temperate man with a filter with germicide attachment these days Potomac water might be more kludgy received.

This sugar is not refined.

Memorial Day at Culpeper. Services were held at the cemetery at Culpeper, Va., on next Wednesday.

Mr. John C. B. Burger, member of the National Council of Administration, Grand Army of the Republic, who delivered the oration at Fredericksburg last Decoration Day, has been invited and will deliver the oration on the occasion. The train will leave the Pennsylvania depot at 9 o'clock on the morning, and will return to the city at 8.40 the same evening. Fare for the round trip has been placed at \$2.70. Those who do not care to provide lunch for themselves can obtain dinner at Culpeper at moderate rates.

Memorial Services This Morning. George H. Thomas Post, No. 10, and Phil Kearney Camp, Sons of Veterans, will attend divine service at the Eastern Presbyterian church this morning. The members of Farragut Post, No. 10, and all comrades who wish to join them, will assemble in Stanton square at 10.30, where they will be joined by the other organizations and proceed to the church in a body.

In the evening, at 7.30 o'clock, Farragut Post, No. 10, will attend divine service at Rev. Jacob D. Wilson's Independent Methodist Church.

CLOAK ROOM AND GALLERY.

At the close of the week the opposition in the Republican camp to the tariff bill has all disappeared; that is now only a matter of time when the final break up in the Republican ranks will occur and the bill be pushed to a speedy passage in its remaining paragraphs.

Senator Harris is anxious to have a date fixed for the final vote, and would have made an effort to secure the same several weeks ago. He had it not been for his fear that in so doing he would only stir up a handful of men who would make long speeches and employ the usual well-known dilatory tactics. He is all ready for longer sessions if these appear necessary, but realizes that there is truth in the old maxim, "the more haste, etc.," and would prefer to avoid it.

Senator Dubois, of Idaho, who quite early declared his opposition to filibustering over the bill, said yesterday that not one-quarter of the Republican members of the local committee to participate in further attempts at delay.

Among the spectators in the reserved gallery of the Senate yesterday were the wives of two Senators, one the pretty bride of Sen. Paul, and the other the wife of Sen. Blair, of Louisiana.

It is rather remarkable that, with the dozen or more in the Senate who lay claim to being great economic thinkers, not one has written a word of prominence on financial affairs.

In France Leon Say, the famous author of Les Sources des Finances, was minister of finance, and used his opportunity by the way, as a American, to make a pile on manipulating sugar duties. Goschen, late chancellor of the exchequer, and now in the British Parliament, has written an excellent work on the theory of the exchanges. Both these works are standard works and have been translated into a dozen or more languages. But Sherman and Morrill and Carlisle and some others who might have been expected to do the same thing here failed to do so, and left the work to professional economists. It is rather a poor showing.

Speaking of Carlisle, a Kentucky man discussing him the other day said that the general impression that the present Secretary of the Treasury had hurt himself in the South by his course in financial affairs was all out of the way; that the southerners realized the awkward position that he had been in; that they still put lots of confidence in him, and that he would be as good a southerner and a silverite as the best among them.

In choosing Dr. English, the member of Congress from Newark, N. J., to deliver the annual memorial day poem at the meeting of the G. A. R. at the Soldiers' Home next Wednesday, a wise selection was made. He is the only poet in the House, and has made a reputation that will live after him.

The suicide or murder which occurred on the Capitol grounds on Friday night ought to draw attention to the need of a better surveillance of the government reservation grounds. If a few electric lights were located at commanding points and half a dozen police men employed to patrol the grounds, the chances of such a crime would be greatly reduced. For which government reservations in the city are getting to be notorious.

It is a disgrace to the city and to the government to let matters go on as they are. The present means of preventing disorderly and improper conduct there are wholly inadequate.

The latest from New Jersey is to the effect that Senator McPherson will be returned. The Republican legislature has tied itself up to such an extent that the Democrats are said to be seriously contemplating to let that serve as a campaign.

There has been a credit to New Jersey and ought to be kept here. A few more level-headed men of his kind would not hurt the Democratic side just now.

But in naval affairs especially Mr. McPherson has been valuable. New Jersey has always taken a great interest in the protection of the seaboard of necessity, and when the New Jersey Senator came here the first committee which he was assigned was that on naval affairs.

He has always been in favor of the development and increase of the navy, and worked with much zeal that purpose with commendable results. Mr. Springer is very anxious to have his bill for a national currency pushed through the House by a large majority. In that case he says it would probably be accepted without much delay by the Senate and become law. Mr. Springer is a strong man, and knows the President's attitude toward his bill, but believes it will be favorable.

Mr. Springer's plan, with its 20-per cent. gold content, will be a good one, and will be a basis for the supervision of the banks under national control, as much to the benefit of the country as whether it is Democratic enough to catch a big Democratic majority, and whether the silver man in his party will care to help along a plan which will be a good one, and will be a basis for the supervision of the banks under national control, as much to the benefit of the country as whether it is Democratic enough to catch a big Democratic majority, and whether the silver man in his party will care to help along a plan which will be a good one, and will be a basis for the supervision of the banks under national control, as much to the benefit of the country as whether it is Democratic enough to catch a big Democratic majority, and whether the silver man in his party will care to help along a plan which will be a good one, and will be a basis for the supervision of the banks under national 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